

Norman T. A. Munder Collection 1911-1941 MS 07

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections

November 2003

<http://www.prattlibrary.org/>

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Summary Information

Repository	Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections
Title	Norman T. A. Munder Collection
Date [bulk]	Bulk, 1920-1937
Date [inclusive]	1911-1941
Extent	6.0 Linear feet 5 boxes
Language	English
Abstract	<p>Norman Thompson Aeisler Munder was born in Baltimore, Maryland in 1867, and began his career as a printer at the age of seven. Upon his death in 1953, Munder donated a collection of broadsides, memorabilia, brochures, and examples of the fine art of printing to the Enoch Pratt Library. An internationally renowned printer and authority on typography, Munder retired from his own printing company in 1931 and became an advisory printing consultant to the Enoch Pratt Library in 1935. The materials in the collection include: personal papers, company history, printing techniques, material printed by Munder as well as fine printing copies presented to him</p>

Preferred Citation

Norman T. A. Munder Collection, 1911-1941, Special Collections, Enoch Pratt Free Library/Maryland's State Library Resource Center.

Biographical note

Norman Thompson Aisler Munder was born Christmas night, 1867 at 230 W. Lombard Street in Baltimore. His father, Charles Frederick Munder, Sr., the first preserve and candy maker in Maryland, died in 1868 when Norman was four months old. At the age of seven, young Norman and his two older brothers bought a small printing press and embarked upon the printing business. Norman and his brother, Charles F. Munder, Jr. worked after school at a printer on Baltimore Street near Calvert. Charles died at the early age of 28, and Norman at 19 along with brother Wilmer Lee Munder was made a member of the new firm, Munder Bros, 55 Water Street, along with their cousin William A. Marburg. The business flourished.

After the Baltimore fire of 1904, the firm of Norman T. A. Munder was formed. In 1905, Wilmer "Billie" Munder died and his place in the company was taken by Ned Thomsen. The business continued as the Munder-Thomsen Co. until 1909 when Thomsen withdrew to form the Thomsen-Ellis Co. with Frank Ellis. By 1916, Munder's firm had 33 employees and eleven presses and occupied a floor in the Candler building. Munder's reputation as a fine printer flourished with the completion of the Strathmore Book, a book of fine paper sampling. After a series of reproductions of etchings, art collectors began commissioning Munder for high quality printing. Munder printed elaborate books for the private libraries of J. Pierpont Morgan, John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. In 1931, the depression closed the plant.

Joseph Wheeler, librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library asked Munder to join the library advisory staff to take charge of the modest printing plant operated by the library. While at the Pratt he designed the books and brochures that the library published. He also supervised the publication of a series of poetry broadsides that were distributed to Baltimore City Public Schools. In 1935, Munder reproduced the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution for The Library of Congress. In 1953, Munder died at the age of 85.

Scope and Contents note

Norman T.A. Munder, an internationally renowned printer and authority on typography, was born in Baltimore in 1867 and owned and operated a printing business in the city. He was later the printer at the Enoch Pratt Free Library. The material in this collection dates from 1911 after the death of Norman Munder's brother "Billie" in 1905, and subsequent to the period of the partnership with Ned Thomsen. The collection includes personal and company papers, selections of Munder's writing on printing techniques and process, as well as examples of his work.

Arrangement

- I. Personal Papers, 1921-1937 This series contains a handwritten autobiography, published biographies, 1937, and awards and certificates, which are arranged chronologically.
- II. Company History, 1923-1939 History of T.A. Munder and Company includes the incorporation pamphlet, stock certificates, promotional material and advertising for the company. Material is arranged by format.
- III. Printing Techniques, 1912-1924 Munder was a scholar in the history of printing, printing techniques and paper. This series includes his handwritten printing history, the reproductions of etchings printed by Munder, and his system of paper selection. These are arranged by format.
- IV. Printed Material, 1911-1940 This series contains items printed by Norman T. A. Munder. These are arranged by format and chronologically within format. The material includes broadsides, Christmas cards, photographs, pamphlets and books. The books are housed on shelves alongside the archival boxes.
- V. Presentation copies, 1929-1940 The books, pamphlets, and monograms presented to Munder are arranged chronologically.
- VI. Oversize materials, 1918-1937 These are large format items and are arranged according to series within the box.
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Administrative Information

Publication Information

Enoch Pratt Free Library Special Collections November 2003

Revision Description

Entered into Archivist' Toolkit by Joan M. Wolk. December 2014

Conditions Governing Access

"Unrestricted, by appointment only."

Accruals

"No accruals are expected."

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Upon his death in 1953, Baltimore native Norman T. A. Munder donated a collection of broadsides, memorabilia, brochures, and examples of the fine art of printing to the Enoch Pratt Library. An internationally renowned printer and authority on typography, Munder retired from his own printing company in 1931 and became an advisory printing consultant to the Enoch Pratt Library in 1935.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Enoch Pratt Free Library.
- Munder-Thomsen co., Baltimore..

Genre(s)

- advertising
- etching (printing process)
- etching (prints)
- memorabilia
- photographs
- Picture sheets (Broadsides)
- Printing
- Printing--Technique
- Typography

Personal Name(s)

- Munder, Norman T. A., (Norman Thompson Aeisler), 1867-1953
- Wheeler, Joseph Lewis, 1884-1970

Subject(s)

- Stock certificates

Series I: Personal Papers

Collection Inventory

Series I: Personal Papers 1921-1937	Box	Folder
	1	1-3a
	Box	Folder
Autobiography handwritten by Munder	1	1
Published biographies, 1937	1	2
Awards and certificates, 1921-1936	1	3
Correspondence with Joseph Wheeler and J.H. Nash	1	3a
Series II: Company History 1923-1939	Box	Folder
	1	4-7
	Box	Folder
Incorporation pamphlet, 1923	1	4
Stock certificates	1	5
Promotions	1	6
Advertising	1	7
Series III: Printing Techniques 1912-1924	Box	Folder
	1	8-13
Subseries 1: History	Box	Folder
	1	8

Subseries 2: Reproduction of Etchings

	Box	Folder
Munder's handwritten printing history	1	8
Subseries 2: Reproduction of Etchings	Box 1	Folder 9-10
	Box	Folder
Pamphlets	1	9
Loose sheets	1	10
Subseries 3: "System of Paper Selection"	Box 1	Folder 11-12
	Box	Folder
Pamphlets	1	11
Charts	1	12
Subseries 4: Type Styles	Box 1	Folder 13
	Box	Folder
Pamphlets	1	13
Series IV: Printed Material 1911-1940	Box 1-4	Volume 1-14
Subseries 1: Broadside	Box 1	Folder 14
Subseries 2: Christmas cards	Box 2	Folder 15
Subseries 3: Photographs	2	16

Subseries 4: Pamphlets

Subseries 4: Pamphlets	Box	Folder
	2	17-31
	Box	Folder
Pamphlets, 1911-1914	2	17
Pamphlets, 1915-1919	1	18
Pamphlets, 1920-1922	1	19
Pamphlets, 1923-1924	1	20
Pamphlets, 1925	1	21
Pamphlets, 1927	3	22
Pamphlets, 1928	1	23
Pamphlets, 1929	3	24
Pamphlets, 1934	1	25
Pamphlets, 1935	1	26
Pamphlets, 1936-1940	3	27
Pamphlets, 1941	3	28
Pamphlets, undated	3	29

Subseries 5: Books and Journals

Pamphlets, undated	4	30
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Pamphlets, undated	4	31
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Subseries 5: Books and Journals

Compensation by Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1923

The Greatest Thing in the World by Henry Drummond, 1923

The Greatest Thing in the World by Henry Drummond, (hardbound)

In Memoriam: Warren Gamaliel Harding an address by Hon. John H. Bartlett, 1923

Law as a Social Instrument The Johns Hopkins University, 1930

Memories: Poems collected from old letters and papers of John Wirt Randall, 1928

Pre-Alphabet Days by Otto F. Ege, 1923

The Public's Answer by Arthur W. Hawks, Jr., 1927

Type Spacing by Everett R. Currier, 1912 (1 of 300 copies printed by Munder) (Z253.C88)

PM Journal (Journal for Production Managers and Art Directors)

Sept. 1936 – August 1937

Series V: Presentation copies

1937 – February, November

1938 – April/May, August/September, October/November (2)

1938/39 – December/January

1940 - February/March

Pre-Alphabet Days by Otto F. Ege, 1923

Series V: Presentation copies 1929-1940	Box	Folder
	4	32-34
Subseries 1: Books and Pamphlets	Box	Folder
	4	32-33
	Box	Folder
Books and Pamphlets, 1929-1932	4	32
Books and Pamphlets, 1934-1940	4	33
Subseries 2: Monograms	Box	Folder
	4	34
Series VI: Oversize materials 1918-1937	Box	Folder
	5	35-47
Subseries 1: Personal papers 1930-1936	Box	Folder
	5	35-36
	Box	Folder
Photos of Munder, 1934, 1936	5	35
Tyothetea, Rochester certificate, May 30	5	36

Subseries 2: Printing Techniques

Subseries 2: Printing Techniques 1927	Box 5	Folder 37-38
	Box	Folder
Munder Systemizer, 1927	5	37
Reproduction of Etchings	5	38
Subseries 3: Printed Material 1918-	Box 5	Folder 39-40
	Box	Folder
Poster, 1918	1	39
Broadsides	5	40
Subseries 4: Presentation copies 1937	Box 5	Folder 41-42
	Box	Folder
Leaf of Plutarch's Vitae..., undated	5	41
Leaf from F. Goudy, 1937	5	42
Subseries 5: Poetry Broadsides 1935, Revised 1949	Box 5	Folder 43-47
	Box	Folder
Numbers 1-10	5	43
Numbers 11-20	5	44
Numbers 21-30	5	45

Subseries 6: Poetry Broad sides 2 oversize bound print copies, soft and har

Numbers 31-40	5	46
Numbers 41-50	5	47
Subseries 6: Poetry Broad sides 2 oversize bound print copies, soft and hard		Volume 1-2